



MONTANA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Montana Indian Language Preservation Pilot Program

Application Guidelines

Application Period: July 25, 2013 – September 30, 2013

2015 Biennium

Montana Indian Language Preservation Pilot Program (MILP³) Guidelines
Sections I, II, and III. (as approved by the State Tribal Economic Development Commission)

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I. ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The *Montana Indian Language Preservation Pilot Program (MILP³)*, sponsored by Senator Jonathan Windy Boy as Senate Bill 342, demonstrates the State of Montana's commitment to protect American Indian cultural integrity by recognizing that languages (spoken, written, or in sign language form) are vital to the identity of tribal nations. Montana tribal languages are in a time of crisis through the loss of native speakers, writers, and signers. The tribes and the state have resources such as tribal colleges, councils, historic preservation offices, the Montana Historical Society, and Montana State Library to preserve and protect Montana tribal languages for this and future generations.

Collaborative administrative program rules were developed by tribal language preservation partners with a notification of adoption on July 25, 2013. During the 63rd Legislature, \$2 million in funding for the Montana Indian Language Preservation Pilot Program was approved in coordination with House Bill 2, and signed into law by Governor Bullock on May 5, 2013. These grant funds, contracted to the tribal governments for further distribution for local projects, support the respective language preservation efforts of each tribal government.

A. Notification to Tribal Governments and Interested Parties

The State Tribal Economic Development Commission shall notify the eight tribal governments, including the Little Shell Chippewa Tribe of the availability of \$2 million in Montana Indian Language Preservation Pilot Program funds no later than July 31, 2013.

B. State Tribal Economic Development Commission (Montana Department of Commerce) Contract with Tribal Governments

- (1) The governing bodies of each of Montana's eight tribal governments are the grantees with the State Tribal Economic Development Commission (Montana Department of Commerce) for the Montana Indian Language Preservation Pilot Program.
- (2) Tribal governments that are interested in contracting for the program funds shall enter into contract with the Commission (Montana Department of Commerce) no later than September 30, 2013.

C. Local Program Advisory Boards

- (1) Each tribal government receiving program funds shall form local program advisory boards.
- (2) Each local program advisory board shall work with college tribal language instructors and individuals who evaluate applicants for licensure as a class 7 American Indian Language and culture specialist to develop and adopt measurable and specific outcome requirements for their respective language preservation programs.
- (3) Members of a local program advisory board may include but are not limited to representatives, such as:
 - a. the governor's office of Indian affairs,
 - b. School districts located on reservations,
 - c. Tribal colleges,
 - d. Tribal historic preservation offices
 - e. Tribal language and cultural programs,
 - f. units of the Montana university system,

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- g. the Montana historical society,
 - h. the Office of public instruction,
 - i. Montana public television organizations,
 - j. school districts not located on reservations, and
 - k. the Montana state library.
- (3) Local program advisory boards are responsible for providing reports on expenditures on grant funds, overall program progress and other criteria as determined by the State Tribal Economic Development Commission to the State-Tribal Relations Committee at each meeting during the interim.

D. Funding Distribution and Availability

- (1) \$2 million in grant funds shall be available starting July 1, 2013 for a total of \$2 million for the biennium.
- (2) Any unencumbered funds shall revert to the general fund on June 30, 2015 with all tangible goods produced as a result of the funding due to the Montana Historical Society by September 15, 2014.
- (3) Program funds shall be equally distributed through a contract to each of the eight tribal governments, including the Little Shell Tribe.
- (4) Distribution of funds shall be governed by individual contracts between the Commission (Montana Department of Commerce) and each tribal government, including the Little Shell Tribe. The individual contracts shall specify the method of distribution from the Commission to the tribal government. Program objectives and requirements must be incorporated into the overall contract between each tribal government and the Commission.
- (5) Tribal governments may further distribute awarded funds directly to projects or through sub-recipient agreements or sub-contracts, complying with applicable laws, rules, policies, and regulations concerning, but not limited to, human rights. Civil rights, employment law, labor law, and contract law.
- (6) Funds not contracted by October 30, 2013 may be re-pooled and/or re-distributed to current contracts with an additional submitted scope of work.

E. Eligible Activities, Required Performance and Output Standards

- (1) Specific Indian language preservation activities **must** include:
 - a. Development of audio and visual recordings, or
 - b. Creation of dictionaries and other reference materials, including audio, visual, electronic, or written dictionaries, or
 - c. Creation and publication of curricula, which may include electronic curricula.
- (2) Furthermore, specific activities **may** include:
 - a. Language classes,
 - b. Language immersion camps,
 - c. Storytelling, or
 - d. Publication of literature, or
 - e. Other language preservation activities as determined by the respective local advisory boards.
- (3) Each local program advisory board shall work with college tribal language instructors and individuals who evaluate applicants for licensure as a class 7 American Indian language and culture specialist to adopt measureable and specific outcome requirements for their respective language preservation programs.

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F. Ineligible Activities

Funds may not be used to pay for any of the following activities or costs:

- (1) Operational or maintenance costs or expenses;
- (2) Financial expenses, including but not limited to interest expense, bond issuance costs, or any other debt-related costs or expenses;
- (3) Projects receiving funding for the same services, equipment, or goods through any other local, state, or federal grant or other funding program, except as necessary to fully fund the project; or
- (4) Projects involving a casino or other gambling establishment, aquarium, zoo, golf course, or swimming pool.

G. Use of Funds

- (1) Eligible uses of funds include:
 - a. Development of audio and visual recordings,
 - b. Creation of dictionaries and other reference materials, including audio, visual, electronic, written dictionaries,
 - c. Creation and publication of curricula, which may include electronic curricula.
 - d. Language classes,
 - e. Language immersion camps,
 - f. Storytelling,
 - g. Publication of literature, or
 - h. Other language preservation activities as determined by the respective local advisory boards.
- (2) Tangible goods must be produced or created as a result of the funding and should be noticeably different than previously produced language preservation goods.
- (3) Tangible goods produced are done so with public funds and as such should be available for fair use to the public; cultural and intellectual property rights belong to the tribe and may be negotiated between the tribe and partnering entities.
- (4) The total administrative fee that can be charged to the grant by the grantee (tribal government) is 5% of the total grant award for administration of the contract.

H. Program Deadlines

- (1) Project proposals may be submitted to each tribal government's local program advisory boards anytime on or after July 31, 2013 and are due on or before September 30, 2013.
- (2) Each local program advisory board shall provide reports to the state-tribal relations committee at each meeting during the interim.
- (3) Funds not contracted by October 31, 2013 can be re-allocated to current contracts with an additional scope of work.
- (4) Tangible goods are due to the Montana Historical Society by September 15, 2014.
- (5) Any remaining funds that are unencumbered as of June 30, 2015 revert to the general fund.

II. CONTRACTING AND PROJECT PROPOSAL REVIEW PROCESS

A. Project Proposal Review

The project proposal(s) shall be reviewed by the local program advisory board to determine if the proposal(s) meet the specific outcome requirements of their respective language preservation program.

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B. Local Program Advisory Board Approval

Once approved by the local program advisory board, the tribal government can further distribute funds via sub-recipient agreement(s) for language preservation projects according to the eligible uses of funds.

C. Incorporation of Application by Reference into Contract

Approved applications to the local program advisory board will be incorporated into the contract between the tribal government and the State Tribal Economic Development Commission (Section I (B)).

III. REPORTING

A. Reporting to the State-Tribal Relations Committee

Reports shall be required to be submitted to the state-tribal relations committee at each meeting during the interim.

B. Report Content

Local program advisory boards to submit written reports on:

- (1) Expenditures (including any unused funds) and
- (2) overall program progress in relation to measureable and specific outcome requirements contained in the contract,

C. Copy of Each Report to the State Tribal Economic Development Commission

A copy of each report provided to the State-Tribal Economic Development Commission for the purposes of determining payment disbursement.